



Ninety-Eighth Legislature - Second Session - 2004
Introducer's Statement of Intent
LB 1212

Chairperson: Mark Quandahl
Committee: Banking, Commerce and Insurance
Date of Hearing: February 9, 2004

The following constitutes the reasons for this bill and the purposes which are sought to be accomplished thereby:

Legislative Bill 1212 would make a change to regulation of health insurance plans.

Current law requires that medical benefit plans treat insured persons who make use of a "mail-order pharmacy" no differently than insured persons who use other pharmacies. This precludes an insurance plan from offering a discount to insured persons for the use of a mail-order pharmacy.

There is, however, an exception to this provision for "long-term maintenance drugs." With respect to such, insurance plans can offer different terms for use of mail-order pharmacies. "Long-term maintenance drugs" are defined as medications which are dispensed pursuant to a single prescription for a period of no less than 180 days.

LB 1212 would change the definition of "long-term maintenance drugs" such that prescriptions for a period of 90 days or longer would be covered by the exception, rather than the current 180-day requirement.

Principal Introducer: _____
Senator Kermit A. Brashear